



MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

4160 PATTERSON AVENUE – BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215
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Thursday, October 20, 2011

Minutes

Chair Moon called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Commissioners present: Conway, Falcone, Fleig, Krumm, Lyles, McLean, Olsen, Petty, Weinstein, and Worthington.

ITEM 1.

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Lyles made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2011 public meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner McLean and unanimously approved.

ITEM 2.

Update of Activities

Ben Steffen, Acting Director, said the Maryland Health Insurance Plan (MHIP) Board voted to expand dependent coverage from age 23 to age 26 beginning July 1, 2012.

Mr. Steffen said the Advisory Committees established by the Health Care Exchange Board are moving forward and final report will be submitted to the full Board in November.

Commissioner Fleig, Co-Chair of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange's Small Business Health Options Program Exchange, provided an update regarding that committee.

Sarah Orth, Chief, Health Information Technology, introduced and welcomed Trisha Curran to the Center for Health Technology as Health Policy Analysis.

Bruce Kozlowski, Director, Center for Health Care Financing and Health Policy, introduced and welcomed Scharmaine Robinson as Chief, Health Benefit Plan Quality and Performance. Ms. Robinson came to the Center for Health Care Financing and Health Policy from our Center for Hospital Services.

Leslie LaBrecque, Chief, Data Base & Applications Development, introduced and welcomed Paula Henning as Assistant Chief to that Division.

ITEM 3.

ACTION: Certificate of Need – Solomon’s Nursing Center (Docket No. 11-04-2317)

Paul Parker, Acting Director, Center for Hospital Services, said that Solomon’s Nursing Center applied for a Certificate of Need to add 12 nursing home beds to their facility. The beds will be added through a building addition attached to the existing one-story facility near an existing nursing station. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,353,064. Staff recommended approval of the project with a condition requiring execution of an updated Memorandum of Understanding with the Maryland Medicaid program concerning minimum required levels of service to Medicaid patients. Commissioner Fleig made a motion to approve the staff recommendation, which was seconded by Commissioner Krumm and unanimously approved.

ACTION: Certificate of Need – Solomon’s Nursing Center (Docket No. 11-04-2317) is hereby APPROVED.

ITEM 4.

ACTION: Request for Data – American Institutes for Research

David Sharp, Director, Center for Health Information Technology, presented the American Institutes for Research (AIR) request for data from the Commission’s Medical Care Data Base, Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, and the Maryland Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures Data Base. Chair Moon recused herself from consideration of this matter. Dr. Sharp said that AIR’s application was evaluated by Chesapeake IRB, which determined that the study design has adequate controls to protect the confidentiality of the data. Commissioner Krumm made a motion to approve the data release, which was seconded by Commissioner Petty and unanimously approved.

ACTION: Request for Data – American Institutes for Research is hereby APPROVED.

ITEM 5.

UPDATE: Brief Review of the October Update to the Hospital Guide including Hospital Performance on Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections

Scharmaine Robinson, and Mariam Rahman, Health Policy Analysts working in the Center for Hospital Services, presented a brief review of the October Update to the Hospital Guide including Hospital Performance on Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI). Maryland acute care hospitals are required to use the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) surveillance system to report data to the Commission on CLABSI in any ICU and surgical site infections related to Hip, Knee and CABG surgeries. Staff was pleased to report that new data showed that hospitals have made significant progress in reducing the CLABSI rate for patients treated in Maryland Intensive Care Units.

ITEM 6.

UPDATE: State Health Improvement Plan – Madeleine Shea, Ph.D., Director, Office of Population Health Improvement, DHMH

In September, the O’Malley Administration announced a new State Health Improvement Plan. The goal of the new plan is to focus state and local action on a small number of critical population health improvement factors that enable people to live in health supporting environments. Dr. Madeline Shea provided an overview of the State Health Improvement Plan and described ways that MHCC can support the plan. Dr. Shea is the Director of the DHMH Office of Population Health Improvement and also Co-Principal Investigator of a translation

research project to reduce racial disparities in asthma in Baltimore. Prior to becoming Director, Dr. Shea served as the Baltimore City Health Department Assistant Commissioner for Healthy Homes & Communities, and as the Deputy Director of the Maryland AIDS Administration. Dr. Shea has served on numerous national, state and local boards, councils and workgroups to advance effective prevention practice and health equity. Dr. Shea began her health and human service career in the US Peace Corps in Liberia.

ITEM 7.

PRESENTATION: Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund

The Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund cover the costs of medical care provided by trauma physicians at Maryland's designated trauma centers for uncompensated care, Medicaid- enrolled patients, trauma-related on call and standby expenses, and trauma equipment grants. Karen Rezabek, Health Policy Analyst, and Bridget Zombro, Director of Administration, presented on the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund annual report. The Fund received \$11.6 million from the \$5 registration fees collected by MVA in FY 2011 and expended \$11,564,939 in FY 2011, down from FY 2010. Commission staff have requested that the Maryland General Assembly revise the statute to remove the requirement that expenditures from the Fund may not exceed the revenues collected in a fiscal year. This revision will allow the MHCC to spend up to the appropriated level, even if that amount exceeds the collected amount in a year and will allow the MHCC to spend funds in advance of deposits of revenue from MVA.

ITEM 8.

PRESENTATION: Healthcare spending in Maryland's Individual and Small Group Markets

The Healthcare Spending in Maryland's Individual and Small Group Market report compares annual spending for professional, institutional, and prescription drug services by privately insured Maryland residents in the individual market, small employer market, and the state's high-risk health insurance program. Dr. Claudia Schur, Vice President, Center for Health Research and Policy, Social and Scientific Systems and Linda Bartnyska, Chief of Cost and Quality, presented the findings.

ITEM 9.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m., upon motion of Commissioner Weinstein, which was seconded by Commissioner Fleig and unanimously approved.